

dental civilization. After I had accepted, the murder of Boutros Pasha occurred, and then word was brought me from Sir Eldon Gorst that in view of the delicacy of the situation he trusted that I would say nothing about the assassination in my speech. Every human being was thinking chiefly of the assassination, and the failure to take prompt action in punishing the assassin had produced a dangerous condition in the native mind. For me to have spoken at all and yet to have avoided mentioning the assassination would have been attributed by every one simply to fear, and would have been thoroughly unfortunate. I accordingly answered that I should do nothing of which the authorities did not approve, and would make no speech without submitting it to them; but that I would not speak at all if I were not to speak of the one really vital question which was filling the minds of every one. This answer seemed to clear matters, and I at once received a request by all means to go on and speak as I had intended. I wrote out my speech very carefully in advance, brought it in person to both Sir Eldon G-orst and the Sirdar, Sir Reginald Win-gate, who as I have said were then in Cairo. Each of them made one or two suggestions, all of which I adopted, and they then approved every word of it. I accordingly delivered it.

After its delivery, Gorst wrote me as follows about it:

"Just a line to say how immensely I enjoyed your address, and how glad I am that you consented

to speak to
these people. If anything can bring them into
a more rea-
sonable frame of mind, your words should have
that effect.
In any case, if you have done nothing more, you
have given
me renewed courage to go on with what I
often feel to be
a very hopeless task/'

The Sirdar wrote me two or three times,
some of his
letters being so personally congratulatory
that I do not
quite like to quote them. But they included
such phrases
as the following:

"Do let me again thank you most truly and
most cordially
for all you have done to help forward our task
in the Sudan.